

Case No. F3238(C)

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to improve the language, as suggested by the Office. Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill would well be able to understand the scope of the present claims. Also, claim 20 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 4. Accordingly claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice.

A proposed change to the figure is enclosed with the change shown.

Applicants' principle goal is extrusion of ice cream and other frozen confections. The Office points to no teaching of the use of an extruder of the type recited herein for frozen confections. The unobvious use to which the extruders of the invention are directed are reflected particularly in the recitation of a cooling circuit and, even more particularly, in claim 20 in the recitation that the cooling liquid is ammonia. This reflects the very low temperatures for which the present invention is intended. The Office points to no teaching that the Rauwendaal reference can or should be used for such purposes.

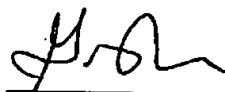
With respect to the Office's assertion that the presence of ammonia cannot be relied upon, it is unclear why the applicant should be denied the possibility of claiming the apparatus and a functional ingredient contained therein where such is clearly recited. Applicants are not reciting a vague, intended use, but the affirmative presence of the ammonia within the cooling circuit.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application, as amended, be allowed.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**In the claims:**

Please amend claims 15, 20 and 22, as follows:

15. (Twice amended) Extruder according to claim 20 with a screw LT/De [ration] ratio of between 2 and 5.

20. (Amended) Single screw comprising an extruding screw and a barrel, said extruding screw having a length (LT) in contact with the barrel, a pitch length (Sp) and a screw diameter (De), said single screw extruder comprising cooling means constituted by a cooling circuit wherein a cooling liquid is circulated, said extruding screw being characterised by from[between] ~~2 and 6~~ 3 to 4 thread starts and pitch angle defined as $\text{Arctg}(\text{Sp}/\text{Pi.De})$ of between 32 and 42 degrees said cooling liquid being ammonia.

22. (Amended) A single screw extruder comprising an extruding screw and a barrel, said extruding screw having a length (LT) in contact with the barrel, a pitch length (Sp) and a screw diameter (De), said single screw extruder comprising a cooling circuit wherein a cooling liquid is circulated, said extruding screw comprising [having] between 2 and 6 thread starts and pitch angle defined as $\text{Arctg}(\text{Sp}/\text{Pi.De})$ of between 32 and 42 degrees.

~~Fig. 1.~~